

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 AF-10 DHA-02 OES-07 L-03
DLOS-09 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01
USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 /074 W
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FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
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INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 3490

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PFOR, SP, AO
SUBJECT: GOS SEEKING RELEASE OF FISHERMEN DETAINED IN ANGOLA

1. THEWELL-PUBLICIZED CALL ON FOREIGN MINISTER OREJA BY 18 WIVES OF SPANISH FISHERMEN (OFF TWO BOATS) HELD IN ANGOLA FOR SOME FOUR MONTHS LEFT THE MINISTER DISCOMFITED, THE MINISTRY'S CHIEF FOR SUBSAHARAN AFRICA AND CONTINENTAL ASIA (CASSINELLO) TOLD EMBASSY; IT WAS QUITE A SCENE, WITH TWO OF THE WOMEN CRYING, TWO OTHERS SHOUTING INSULTS, AND THE REST GLARING SILENTLY.

2. OREJA IN FACT HAS A PROBLEM, SAID CASSINELLO, SINCE ALTHOUGH SPAIN HAS RECOGNIZED ANGOLA IT DOES NOT HAVE RELATIONS WITH IT. THE SPANISH AMBASSADORS IN LISBON, HAVANA, AND AT THE UN HAVE ALL BEEN WORKING ON THE MATTER (THE PRESS REPORTS THERE ARE 33 SPANIARDS IN ALL BEING HELD), THE GOS HAS ALSO REQUESTED THE ASSISTANCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS AND THE AOU, AND IS THINKING OF TAKING THE PROBLEM TO THE UN ITSELF. AT THE MOMENT, SAID CASSINELLO, THEY REALLY DO NOT KNOW WHAT ELSE TO DO.

3. THE MADRID PRESS THE FOLLOWING DAY GAVE PROMINENT
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COVERAGE NOT ONLY TO THE WIVES' CALL ON OREJA BUT TO THEIR SUBSEQUENT PRESS CONFERENCE, DURING WHICH VARIOUS OF THE WOMEN WERE SHARPLY CRITICAL OF THE GOVT RESPONSE TO DATE, AND DURING WHICH ALSO COMMUNIST PARTY SEC GEN SANTIAGO CARRILLO WAS PRESENTED AND GAVE A RUNDOWN OF EFFORTS HE HAD MADE ON THE FISHERMEN'S BEHALF, SO FAR WITHOUT SUCCESS. THE PUBLICITY, THE INTEREST OF AT LEAST ONE OPPOSITION

PARTY, AND THE IMMINENCE OF ELECTIONS ONLY
ADD TO THE PRESSURES ON OREJA IN THE PREVIOUSLY LITTLE-KNOWN
CASE.STABLER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: PRISONERS RELEASE, FISHERMEN
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 05-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977MADRID03490
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ISecure: 1
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